

SENATOR WIITALA: Yes, I would. I would be willing to look into that. As I mentioned to you, I had only one reservation and that is that it would be such an overwhelming fiscal impact on the bill that in light of our economic circumstances, the bill might not pass.

SENATOR VICKERS: We will be careful about how we put an amendment on here that might increase the A bill considerably, but in light of that, thank you, Senator Wiitala. In light of that, I would urge the adoption of this bill but I simply would like to alert the body that I believe we should and I will examine, as I am sure Senator Wiitala will, other areas perhaps that may be affected, such as some of the Game and Parks lands and if there are children on those lands that their parents may be having to pay tuition in order to send their children to school. I do recognize the problem that has developed here in Lincoln. It is a rather peculiar situation. I was rather amazed to find out that the State Fairgrounds and the track up here is not considered part of the Lincoln School District. So when these children are there with their parents for the racing season, technically they are not in a school district. Therefore, their parents in order to send them to the public schools here in Lincoln have to pay tuition. I think that is rather unfair, particularly when you consider that some of these children, as I understand it, their parents do have residences in a school district in this state. They are Nebraska residents but just because of their occupation wind up in a place where they are considered outside of a school district and that blew my mind a little bit to find out that we had such areas in the state when you recognize that it is our responsibility to provide education and yet we have these pockets. So I think Senator Wiitala has brought up a legitimate concern and we should advance the bill, recognizing that we may have to look at other areas and it might affect or impact on those also. So with that, I would urge the body's favorable consideration of LB 388.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wiitala, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WIITALA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just going to be brief. I would just like to make a few additional points. Number one, I would like to say that these trainers, these horse owners, jockeys, etcetera, are a vital element in Lancaster County's economy. They contribute immensely to the welfare of this city during the racing season. But probably most importantly is the fact that many if not most of these parents already taxpayers, they are resident Nebraskans, and they already pay for schooling in their own respective districts, and in effect by asking them to pay